



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

HARTFORD REDUCES CITY WORK FORCE BY 132 POSITIONS

---NEWS RELEASE---

(October 23, 2008)--- Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez announced today that in response to a projected budget deficit for the coming fiscal year, that the City is reducing the non-public safety workforce by 132 positions. This action is estimated to save the City more than \$6 million, with most of the savings coming in the FY '09-'10. **30 of the eliminated positions come from previously budgeted positions that will not be filled. 46 of the positions come from workers who announced their retirement as of today and 56 employees will be laid off. None of the layoffs include police officers or firefighters.** The City's request for concessions by impacted unions was not successful. All impacted employees will be provided with transitional assistance to help them find positions outside city government.

"With the financial crisis impacting cities across the nation and with the announcement by the Governor of deep cuts to the state budget, we had to move decisively to maintain a balanced budget and keep our fiscal house in order. These layoffs will not impact public safety and have been formulated in a way to maintain the quality of core city services. But, these are not just numbers, these are people I know and work with. I wish we could have avoided this step. Laying-off employees is the last thing any city leader wishes to do, however we have a duty to our taxpayers and residents to do all we can to meet financial challenges head on. We will continue to look for innovative ways to reduce costs in city government and act as responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars as we move through these difficult times," Mayor Perez stated.